

"To care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and orphans."

## The National Tribune.

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JOHN McILROY, Editor.

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NOTICE.

When you send in your subscription

always state whether renewal or new

subscriber.

When you renew from another post

office give former address as well.

When change of address is desired be

sure to give former address.

The Aldrich bill is a great disappointment

to those who want to get money

for nothing.

Physicians in the East are recommending

women to ride astride, as this

brings far less jolts than this

side-saddle method.

How in the world did the plain people

of this country manage to get along

before Jeff Davis, of Arkansas, was

raised up to take charge of them?

The "Illustrated World," of Kansas

City, Mo., pledges Missouri to William

H. Taft and thinks that Taft and

Knox would make an invincible

combination.

George Ade, the playwright and

author, will be a delegate from Indiana

to the Republican Convention, and we

hear the first whisperings of a boom for

him for Governor.

The Republicans have now a majority

of 50 in the House of Representatives,

and their keenest interest is as to

how far this will be maintained by the

elections this fall.

One of the oddities of the Socialist is

that he wants to tie up everybody else

by stringent laws while he demands to

be given the widest liberty, without

legal restrictions of any kind.

What rough treatment it is for our

naval critics to have our great fleet

pass thru the Straits of Magellan and

encounter all the other trials and vicissitudes

of the long, hard voyage without

losing a man or starting a leak.

The shopkeepers who cater to the

negro trade in Georgia report themselves

delighted with the operation of

prohibition. They note a decided

increase in the sale of groceries, clothing

and other necessities of life.

The Commoner runs to paragraphs

which people generally take pains to

skip, but here is one worth while:

"Washington reports 20,000 cases of

grip, not including the one Uncle Joe

has on legislation."

Jeff Davis, of Arkansas, began his

career of Reform, with the biggest kind

of an R, and his struggle against nepotism,

by putting his two daughters on

the pay roll, one as secretary and the

other as laborer. He thought it best

to begin the alleviation of the financial

stringency by getting more currency in

circulation in the Davis family.

The reform in sausages is assured.

The inspectors on duty at the New

York Custom House have been in-

structed that if there is any flour or

other cereal in imported sausage it

must be stated on the label. This will

operate against the German sausages,

### AN INQUITOUS BILL.

The irrepressible Chairman Tawney, of the House Committee on Appropriations, is up again with another bill leveled directly at the veterans who are in the public employ. It will be remembered that Mr. Tawney introduced a bill of this kind in the last Congress, but the storm that was raised caused the elimination of the objectionable feature from the bill. He has now reintroduced it. A paragraph in the appropriation bill prohibits the payment of any of the money appropriated on the civil list for the payment of any persons "who may have become incapacitated for the performance of the service for which such person has been employed." This makes it mandatory upon the heads of Departments to discharge or at least reduce any clerk which it may be charged is physically or mentally incompetent.

The trouble is that a host of young men are being brought into the Civil Service who have little conception of the spirit or practice of the Civil Service, and the ink on their appointments is hardly dry before they begin to act to their belief that the business of the Government is being mismanaged in a frightfully old foggy and uneconomical way. The only remedy is to get rid of the clerks and other officials above them, and give them a chance to show their superior knowledge and executive ability.

It is ingrained selfishness on the part of this younger element that is at the bottom of such measures as these. Everyone who is at all familiar with public business knows that it is so complicated and delicate that it is so many years of actual working experience to understand and get the best results from it. There are men past 70 in every branch of the Government service who know more about public business and can dispatch more of it than any half dozen young clerks fresh from the Civil Service Commission. They actually "know" things, and have precedents and routine so thoroughly in their minds that they do not have to waste any time studying up a question, but can dispose of it at once, while a younger clerk has to spend hours if not days in trying to get the hang of it.

Every head of a Department of the public service in Washington will at once testify that he has around him old clerks who are as alert as anybody, and who have in addition a fund of ready knowledge gained by long experience, and who are absolutely invaluable to the public service.

Even if this were not so, it would be highly unjust and the worst of public policy to summarily dismiss old clerks who have rendered long and faithful service in this summarily cruel manner. The Government wants, and must have, honest, faithful service in its Bureau precisely as it must have the same in its Army and Navy. The only way to secure this is by the assurance that clerks who conduct themselves properly shall not be turned out in their old age to starve. It is far cheaper for the Government to maintain these old clerks on the rolls or pension them liberally in proportion to their service than to adopt this harsh policy of injustice. The Government is having trouble enough as it is in keeping really competent men in its service against the inducements that corporations and other great businesses are offering. Every civilized Nation in the world sees this clearly, and that it is true economy to give its Civil Service employees not only a reasonable certainty of retaining their employment, but to provide for them in their old age. This is what we were promised when the civil war law was inaugurated, and it is a promise that must be made good.

As it so happens, the majority of the older clerks are men who served their country faithfully in the Army and Navy during the war, and therefore this bill is directed more at them than against any other class. It is they who will suffer far the most if the bill is allowed to pass. This was so manifest that at the last session Gen. Keifer and other friends of the veterans in the House of Representatives took instant and energetic action to eliminate the cruel feature from the bill. Until the Government provides some way for the retirement of clerks who have become incapacitated thru age it will be rank cruelty to allow such a bill to become a law.

WIRZ MONUMENT. We gladly make space for the following very excellent letter from an ex-Confederate in relation to the senseless action of the Daughters of the Confederacy. It shows clearly how the real Confederate soldiers feel on this matter:

Editor National Tribune: In your excellent paper of Jan. 29 you have ably set forth your objections to the proposed monument to be erected to the memory of Maj. Henry Wirz, C. S. A., who cruelly sacrificed the lives of thousands of loyal soldiers who were in defense of the Union.

I am a native of the State of Georgia, served under General Jackson in Virginia, and no man has more respect for the daughters of my native State than I have, but no more than I have for the fair daughters of each and every other State in this glorious Union. While I esteem and respect the Daughters of the C. S. A., I deplore their judgment and tantalizing purpose in erecting a monument with the inscription to the most despised man by loyal citizens of any who were connected in any way in that devastating war. While your editorial is excellent and far-reaching in that it will come before the greatest number of the Federal comrades, yet there are a few additional thoughts which I desire to present to all readers of The National Tribune by your indulgence. I have no desire to kindle the expiring embers of strife, as seemingly have the Daughters of the C. S. A. simply wish to say that I give them credit for intelligence, that they must know that the Wirz Monument to the surviving Federal soldiers is like shaking a red flag before a charging bull, and all loyal, justice-loving people who may not feel a contempt for such misguided people do certainly have pity for them, giving them the benefit of a doubt, that perhaps they don't realize the effect of what they propose.

Comrades of these United States, the Union you sacrificed so much to save, the Union for which thousands of our comrades laid down their lives, please consider what I say. While The National Tribune so ably champions the veterans' cause, yet you, each of you, have a per-

sonal work that you can and should do, a work that no other can do so effectively as you can. This means you, reader. The greatest American, living or dead, Abraham Lincoln, said of these famous words, "A Government of the people, for the people and by the people." We, the people, have our representatives in the House and Senate at Washington, all of whom, I assume, are there from choice, and as a rule all are willing to continue to represent their respective constituencies, and in order to represent them it is very necessary that they know just what the majority of their constituent voters want them to do in their respective positions, especially if the Representative desires to succeed himself at the next coming election. Here is where individual effort counts. I am not so mentally charged with egotism as to assume that an individual atom, one-eighth-millionth of the population of these United States, can accomplish anything that the influence of my personal efforts would be felt. Yet I do maintain that the aggregation of said atoms will invariably accomplish desired results. In Union there is strength; united, we are the people, as thus far the majority of the people is the mandate of the law. Lengthy petitions to Congress have become stale, practically ineffective, as it is conceded that a large signature of any kind has no interest in the matter one way or the other. When our respective officials offer their services to the people at an election, if there is at the time any specially important matter before the next Congress assemblies, the matter is discussed before the election, and the respective candidates declare what their attitude will be toward such measures should they be elected. It suffices as his guide so far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. While Congress is in session this Wirz Monument is sprung upon us, and Senators wish to know how each and every one of his constituent voters feel, what course they wish he should pursue. They cannot represent us unless they know what we think and feel. Then it is not only a privilege, but a bounden duty, we owe to our Representatives, to the people, to our country, as the greatest of modern times. Then it is not only a privilege, but a bounden duty, we owe to our Representatives, to the people, to our country, as the greatest of modern times. Then it is not only a privilege, but a bounden duty, we owe to our Representatives, to the people, to our country, as the greatest of modern times.

Comrade, can it be possible that virtue has sunk so low and vice ascended so high in the minds of the people that they will calmly stand and see this shameful boasting of cruel tyranny, headed by a monument to stand as a falsehood for all time? Each and every one of us has a duty to perform. Reader, will you do it? Don't say you can do no good. I mean to go down to the bottom of the matter and see if I see it, so that if possible a "Government of the people, for the people and by the people" shall not perish from the earth. T. A. Coker, Co. C, 69th Ga. Station B, Oakland, Cal.

NO MORE PENSION SCARES. The Cleveland (O.) Leader has an excellent editorial apropos of the widows' pension bill, in which it says that the time has passed when such legislation provoked much vigorous criticism. A few years ago scares over pension legislation were a favorite weapon in the hands of the opposition party, but the Leader says:

"The day when pension outlays can disturb the country, provided due diligence is used in the selection of pensioners, has passed forever. The utmost recompense, direct and indirect, which can be made to the soldiers and sailors of the Union seems all too meager, too inadequate as the greatest of modern times. The work they did looms so vast upon the pages of history, so immeasurably valuable their services, that it is to the age and the race, that the price paid in pensions to those who still survive and to the dependents of those who have gone from earth is utterly unworthy by comparison. The country realizes now that the debt of gratitude to the veterans of the great war cannot be paid much longer. The shorter the pension list grows on at a pace ever becoming swifter. Death is cutting down the pension rolls. They will not trouble the most generous many years more. The list of names enrolled was 18,600, the greatest decrease in any year since the pension system was established. The work of the pension office is steadily increasing. Everything looks backward now in the Pension Office except gradual fading from public sight and national interest. It is all pathetic, never again to be seen by the most zealous guardians of the Treasury."

DEATH OF PAST COMMANDER WARREN. Osman B. Warren, Postmaster at Rochester, N. H., and Past Commander of the New Hampshire G. A. R., died January 25, of apoplexy, at the age of 62. Comrade Warren was born in Rochester in 1845 and enlisted in the 9th N. H. in which he served to the end of the war. He was Orderly Sergeant of his company, and was taken prisoner at Spotsylvania, being confined in Andersonville, Danville, Florence, and Charleston, for 16 months. He has held five commissions as Postmaster, and was a member of the New Hampshire Legislature for three years. He entered the Grand Army shortly after its organization, was honored with many offices in it, and was Commander of the Department of New Hampshire G. A. R. in 1906. He was prominent in the Masons and Odd Fellows.

The Japanese only want to be men and brothers to the whites. They represent any brotherhood with the yellow races to which they are ethnologically kin. They have either exterminated or driven off into the cold and inhospitable islands the Ainos, who are supposed by many among them to be their ancestors. They are now engaged in ruthless extermination of the Formosans, who are supposed to be their cousins. They call the Koreans "Yobos," or "Yellow Belles," and despise them as mere beasts of burden, without character or brains. They have struck the tenderest point in the Korean heart by ordering them to cut off their topknots, and are enforcing this edict, from the Emperor down, altho rebellion breaks out frequently in the rural districts, where they have not been made acquainted with the heavy hand of the Japanese soldiery. The Chinese are described as "monkeys with long tails, who are always looking backward."

The La Follette partisans are not at all pleased with the attempt to extend the Taft boom into Wisconsin. They say they cannot understand why Taft agreed to let New York alone, and yet come gunning around the preserves of Wisconsin's favorite son.

### CONFEDERATE PENSIONS IN OKLAHOMA.

Stillwater Post stirred up the Oklahoma Legislature very sharply by its resolutions against the bill to pension Confederate soldiers. This bill on its face pretends to give pensions to both Confederate and Union soldiers, but it expressly excludes from its benefits those who "may be pensioned by the Union Government, so that in effect it means to pay pension only to Confederates. In the Oklahoma Senate they threw several kinds of fits over the use of the word "rebels" and the declaration in the resolution that a pension would encourage rebellion. The resolution was torn up and thrown into the wastebasket, and the debate expunged from the records by a vote of 24 to 8. In the House of Representatives the Speaker refused to have it read, and referred it to the "Committee on Rank Prejudice." Wm. H. Murray, the Speaker of the House, wrote an elaborately sophistical letter, in which he argued that before the adoption of the constitutional amendments there was no such thing as a citizen in the United States, and consequently no man was guilty of treason in fighting against the Government. The Speaker's reasoning was so lame as to imply that it does not require a high order of ability to get into the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

### AMERICANS DYING OUT.

Viscount D'Avenel has written an article for the Revue des Deux Mondes, one of the great papers of the world, in which he thinks he has succeeded in proving by a long array of statistics that the Anglo-Saxon race is dying out in this country and the Nation passing into the hands of the immigrants. Now the Irish and Germans only make up five per cent each of the immigrants, the remaining 90 per cent being a heterogeneous crowd, with the Italians about 28 per cent and the remainder Slavs from Austria, Hungary, Russia or Poland. These immigrants breed rapidly, while the original Americans have exceedingly small families. In Chicago there are only 375,000 Americans among the 2,000,000 inhabitants. He says, "The sterility of the general American is something appalling."

### UP TO DATE.

Delegates to the Republican National Convention to the number of 55 have been chosen to date. Of these 41 are instructed and 12 uninstructed, as follows:

For Fairbanks—	
Indiana.....	26
For Taft—	
Ohio.....	8
Missouri.....	6
Tennessee.....	2
Philippines.....	2
Total.....	13
Uninstructed—	
Florida.....	8
Oklahoma.....	2
Alabama.....	2
Total.....	12

The Supreme Court goes on in the even tenor of its way defining the law with cold, clear-cut, absolute interpretation of its words and spirit without regard to public clamor or popular prejudice. It declared the employers' liability act to be null and void, in spite of the wishes of the President, the possible emergencies of the campaign or other extraneous considerations. Now it has started everyone by showing that the Sherman anti-trust law, which was framed in a trust-busting spirit, cuts in an unexpected way. It has decided that labor unions are conspiracies in restraint of trade, according to the terms of that law. The Supreme Court calmly reviews the proceedings of Congress leading up to the enactment of the law, and finds that there were strong efforts made to exempt organizations of farmers and others from its operation, but that these failed, and therefore when Congress adopted the law it meant it to apply as much to them as it did to the great corporations against which it seemed to be absolutely directed. The Supreme Court preserves the spirit of the Constitution, which is distinctly hostile to all class legislation, and resists every attempt in this direction no matter from what source. The Chicago Socialists claim that this decision will enable the Socialists to carry the country at the next election, but the rest of us believe, as all good Americans are in the habit of believing, that the Supreme Court was entirely right and that its decisions must be accepted in their entirety and obeyed with loyal, good faith.

The National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, with nearly 1,000,000 members, has entered actively into the campaign for good roads, believing that the time has arrived when the deplorable condition of our highways must be taken into earnest consideration by the various authorities from the Township to the Nation. It favors the National Government lending its assistance to any movement having for its object the establishment of a system of proper highways, and believes that it should do as much for the farmers in this direction as it has done for other interests of less magnitude. Many hundreds of millions of dollars have been given in the way of cash subsidies and land grants, and there is no reason why money should not be appropriated from the National Treasury to aid the construction of proper highways. It urges an appropriation of \$50,000,000, to be divided into five annual appropriations of \$10,000,000 each, to be expended upon the improvement of public highways.

People are beginning to remark upon the rapid increase of flesh by William Jennings Bryan. In 1906 he was trimly built and a fine figure of a man. Now he is getting almost as much of an equator as Taft, and some men have actually said that he waddles when he walks. While Bryan neither drinks nor smokes, he has an unusual appetite, and the result is becoming apparent that if he and Taft should be the opposing candidates it would be a "fat man's campaign."

### AN UNIDENTIFIED HERO.

The Carnegie Board of Heroism should take immediate steps to ascertain the identity of a young gentleman of Anderson, Ind., who so far modestly hides his personality from deserved fame. It seems that he was one of the prompt visitors at the opera house, for which he deserves commendation, as he was settled there in the darkness long before the curtain went up. Miss Hilligoss has also a need of praise for being herself early. She came in thru the half-light, and found her way to the seat, and with a consideration that also entitles her to praise she at once removed her hat so as not to obstruct the view of those behind her. If that is the fashion in Anderson, Ind., the women there are much better bred than those farther East. Possibly they are not so proud of their hats and so eager to display them to the house. Miss Hilligoss took the three large pins which held her hat to her raven or auburn tresses, whichever they may be, and intended to thrust them one after another into the upholstery of the seat in front. She found that they did not enter as readily as she had expected, so she put her whole force to driving them, and was startled by hearing an acute yell of pain from in front. It seems that in the obscurity she had mistaken the young man's shoulders for the back of the seat. Of course, she made profuse apologies, which the young man accepted with the untutored grace peculiar to Indiana, and he furthermore diminished her confusion by disappearing without making known his identity. A young man of this mettle should be known, admired, emulated, imitated. It would argue mightily well for a young man's desirability as a husband if he could stand even one hatpin being thrust into him without manifesting pain and anger. Such a man would not make everybody miserable for the day by complaining at breakfast that the butter was strong and the coffee weak, or some of the other too usual grumblings on the part of married men. But when we come to remember that he not only endured one and even two pins uncomplainingly and only yelled when the third sought his interior, our admiration for him exceeds bounds. Young ladies should have his photograph to help them in selecting their future partners. A man of that kind could be confidently relied upon to walk with the squalling baby during the still hours of the night without saying things tending to blast his child's moral nature during the rest of its life.

The new jetty at the mouth of the Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River will give to the South one of the best harbors in the world. These jetties were begun four years ago and are all much more substantially formed than those which have done so much good service at the South Pass, which were constructed by Capt. Eads, largely in the nature of an experiment. Rather, they were to demonstrate the correctness of his theories which had been severely attacked by hydraulic engineers. The new jetties, one of which is about three miles long and the other four miles and about one-half mile distant from each other, have forced the current of the Mississippi to scour out a deep channel thru the bar of mud. The Mississippi River extends its valley at the rate of 150 to 250 feet annually, by depositing the mud which it brings down from the long length of the Missouri. There will another bar form at the mouth of the new jetties, but this will be gradual and will be taken care of by the extension of the jetties. The new jetties have cost about \$6,000,000, and they will afford an entrance 1,000 feet wide and 35 feet deep to a splendid harbor sufficient to accommodate all the vessels of the world.

The more sensible of the British are not at all disturbed by the clamor of a few noisy advocates of self-government for India. A recent meeting of these advocates in a congress showed their absolute inability to govern or to even agree upon a form of Government. They showed themselves mere noisy talkers, each consumed with a desire to attract attention. The caste system in India is held to be fatal to the development of any real democracy or any ideas of self-government. The high caste Hindu treats those of lower castes as so far beneath him as not to be considered in any social arrangement. The very low-caste castes are not even regarded as human beings. The Hindu has no love for his country and absolutely no patriotism. He has never heard of such a thing as sacrificing himself for the public good. Like all Asiatic people, he is only interested in getting what he, personally, can get out of life, and his charity for others does not extend beyond his immediate family circles.

A French jury has condemned Monsieur Gustave Herve, the Socialist editor, to a year's imprisonment and a fine of \$600 for his abuse of the French army and his fiery denunciation of patriotism as a degrading superstition. While Herve's incendiary doctrines are obnoxious in the highest degree to all who love good order, it is a question whether his imprisonment is wise. It is always better to let Socialists talk and write as much as they please. If they are left free to do this they will destroy each other, because each of these intemperate advocates is consumed by his own hunger for notoriety, and he can be depended upon to undermine or batter down all his rivals.

Mr. Bryan and Roger C. Sullivan have come to the conclusion that an internecine struggle would result disastrously for both of them, and therefore they have agreed upon a peace. Bryan will not oppose Sullivan's re-election as the National Committeeman from Illinois, and Sullivan will in return give the Illinois delegation to Bryan. In this deal Herve's friends were left out, and they are threatening to oppose Sullivan. It may be that they will think better of it, and every time that Herve's followers have come out into the open to be counted they have lost prestige.

### PENINSULAR CAMPAIGN.

(Continued from page two.)

and down the plain as far as the eye could reach, the camp fires lighted the dark sky, and around them were gathered groups of men, muffled in their long blue overcoats, eagerly discussing the situation. There was no outward sign of fear or doubt over the terrible struggle in which we were about to engage, but many of us, I know, thought of our loved ones at home and in our hearts bade them a silent farewell.

### The Battlefield.

"The Rappahannock River, upon whose banks we lay, runs in a southeasterly direction. Back a distance of about a mile, rise the heights of Fredericksburg, at the foot of which runs the railroad to Richmond, and upon the railroad embankment, and upon the heights were entrenched the enemy. About half-way between the heights and the river, nearly parallel with the latter, runs the Bowling Green Turnpike. The right of our line of battle extended above the city. We were on the extreme left, two miles below the sunrise, our brigade began to move toward the turnpike. We had scarcely gone a dozen rods before the enemy opened on us with shot and shell. I could not help laughing aloud to see the Captain of my company do as the shells as they came over our heads, but I soon learned to do it myself. We double-quickened to the turnpike, where we found shelter by lying flat upon our faces, while the shells went bursting over us with such horrible noise. I hugged the ground for dear life. It was a wild scene, the sharp rattle of musketry, the almost continuous booming of cannon, the neighing of horses, the yells of the drivers, and the sharp commands, mingling with the cries of the wounded, were enough to make a terror to the hearts of our young soldiers. Our batteries replied to the fire of our foes with a promptness and energy that excited my admiration, and the sharp rattle of musketry told that the battle was in progress. Aids and mounted orderlies went dashing hither and thither in hot haste, to the various commands, and then back again. Our staffs were gathered in groups, anxiously scanning the enemy's movements through field-glasses. Great clouds of smoke rolled over us like a burning city, and half obscured the landscape, while the men were marching with quick step in various directions. 'Swiftly forming in the ranks of war,' bugles blared and drums beat, and in a moment the awful din arose the shrill cry of some poor soul who had received a mortal wound. I know of no sound so horrible as the fiendish singing of the pieces of a burst shell, and the wounds they make are usually fatal. The first one killed in our regiment was a noble young fellow in my company. He was struck in the head by a spent cannon-ball. We had time to give him a hasty burial before we moved forward.

### The Order to Advance.

"About half-past 1 p. m., came the word to advance. Between us and the enemy, a distance of half a mile, lay an open field where corn had been planted the preceding summer. The ground, frozen the night before and thawed again at noon, was miry and treacherous, and we often sank half-way to our knees. At intervals deep ditches had been dug, and had time just before the order came for us to advance, Col. Root, the brigade commander, rode down the line and spoke words of encouragement to us. 'Boys, don't judge when—' but before he could finish the sentence, a shell whizzed so close to his head that he himself dodged very emphatically, and he broke with a laugh. 'But you may dodge big ones like that!' And we gave cheers for our commander, who, if he would dodge a shell, was a brave man. Now our line moved forward a dozen yards, when the order came: 'Halt! Unslung knapsacks! Fix bayonets!' Then I knew that we were to fight the enemy with cold steel. Before we had time to execute the order to unslung knapsacks, one man in my company was divested of his by a movement not found in any book on military tactics. A piece of shell struck his knapsack, which was closely rolled and strapped on the top of his neck, just behind the back of his neck, and the momentum of the missile was such that the moment man and knapsack revolved around each other and then they parted company. Again came the order—'Forward!' The bullets now began to sing angrily about our ears, and our men began to fall. The one with whom I touched elbows on my left was among the first victims. The ball entered his head with a thud, and he never forgot and he fell to the ground with a cry of 'I'm shot!' The company to which I belonged was the color company, and the two men fellows who carried the flags, as soon as the order to move forward was given, stepped out of the ranks in advance of the others, and maintained that position during the charge. It was a terrible deed, for the enemy's sharpshooters always seek to pick off the color guard. They were soon made commissioned officers for gallantry. Down to this time I had felt nervous, and my knees trembled and legs felt weak. I acknowledge that I was afraid, but I made myself good by the day my regiment left for Washington, she put her hands upon my head and said: 'My son, never let me hear that you turned your back on the enemy.' The remainder of that pale face and her command were of themselves enough to make one brave, but I needed no such incentive, for when I saw the fellows failing on either side, fear left me and all my angry passions were aroused. The tears trickled down my cheeks, and I believe I could have fought a whole army. I was clear-headed and brave.

"We had traversed about half the distance between the turnpike and the enemy, when we were obliged to pass through the old mine, and were about firing. We halted and fired a dozen or more rounds ourselves. I remember that while I was reloading, my Orderly Sergeant, who was in rear of the company, discharged his rifle. The muzzle was so near my ear that it stunned me for a moment. I clubbed my rifle, turned to him, and above the din of battle I cried: 'Give me a bayonet, you dare do that again I'll—' Here a bullet whizzed so near my nose that I did not finish the sentence. Now came the order, 'Cease firing!' And then, 'Charge bayonets! Forward—double-quick!' We had now a quarter of a mile of muddy ground to traverse, and deep ditches to leap down into and clamber up out of, in the midst of a terrible fire. With each advancing step the fire of the enemy increased. The air was filled with bursting shells, grape